



TELEPHONE (312) 258-5500

SCHIFF HARDIN LLP

PATENT DEPARTMENT

6600 SEARS TOWER

233 SOUTH WACKER DRIVE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606

CONF. NO.: 2636

The application of:

Bruce A. Seiber

Serial No.: 09/864,990

GROUP ART UNIT: 2828

Filed: May 24, 2001

EXAMINER: P. Nguyen

For: ARRANGEMENTS FOR INCREASING SPUTTER LIFE IN GAS DISCHARGE TUBES

RESPONSE TO NOVEMBER 18, 2005 OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(4) HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	(6) RATE	(7) ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	*22	MINUS	*26*		() X 25.00 (X) X 50.00	\$0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	* 3	MINUS	3		() X 100.00 () X 200.00	\$00.00
Application amended to contain any multiple dependent claims not previously paid for.				() YES () NO	() \$150.00 () \$300.00 ONE TIME	\$0.00
				TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT	\$0.00	

* If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 4, write "0" in Column 5.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20 write "20" in this space.

Applicants petition the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend this time for response to the Office Action dated _____ for _____ month so that the period for response is extended to _____. A check in the amount of \$ _____ is attached to cover the cost of the extension. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to deposit account No. 501519. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

A check in the amount of \$ _____ is attached.

A check for \$ _____ accompanying IDS under 37 CFR 1.97(c) is attached

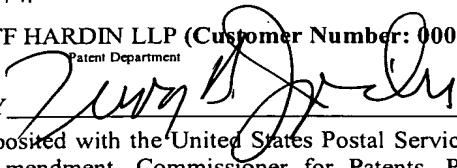
A check for \$ _____ and Petition for Consideration of IDS under 37 CFR 1.97(d) is attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment to account No. 501519. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

When phoning re this application, please call (312) 258-5774.

SCHIFF HARDIN LLP (Customer Number: 000128)

Patent Department

BY  (25,542)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 13, 2006.

Trevor B. Jolke

NAME OF APPLICANT'S ATTORNEY

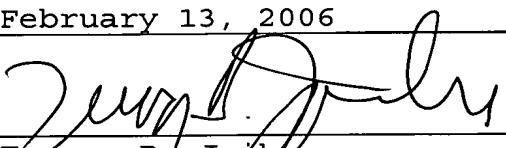
SIGNATURE

February 13, 2006

DATE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

O I P E I A P S E
FEB 16 2006
P A T E N T & T R A D E M A R K S E R V I C E

Applicants: B. A. Seiber)
Serial No.: 09/864,990)
For: ARRANGEMENTS FOR)
INCREASING SPUTTER LIFE)
IN GAS DISCHARGE TUBES)
Filed: May 24, 2001)
Group Art Unit: 2828)
Examiner: P. Nguyen)
Confirmation No.: 2636)
I hereby certify that this
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with the United States
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria,
VA 22313-1450 on this date:
February 13, 2006

Trevor B. Joike
Reg. No. 25/542
Attorney for Applicants

RESPONSE TO NOVEMBER 18, 2005 OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTION

Claims 1-8, 12, and 14-26 are now in the application. Of these claims, claims 1-7 and 15-26 are allowed, claim 8 is rejected, and claims 10, 12, and 14 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected claim but are otherwise considered to be allowable.